



CRICKHOWELL RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL



REPORT

1952

DR. J. TATE, MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

R. A. JACKSON, SURVEYOR & SANITARY INSPECTOR.

CRICKHOWELL RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.Councillors prior to May, 1952.Parish.

R.G. Jones, J.P. (Chairman).	Crickhowell.
J. Mills Price. (Vice-Chairman).	Cwmdu.
Brigadier G. Younghusband.	Partrishow.
Col. J.G. Rees, D.S.O., J.P.	Crickhowell.
Col. P. Fisher, J.P.	Llangenny.
L. J. Lewis, J.P.	Llangattock.
D. H. Jones.	Llanbedr.
A. Lewis.	Llanelly. (Gilwern Ward)
K.A.W. Clarke.	Llanelly. (Gilwern Ward)
W. A. Llewellyn.	Llanelly. (Clydach Ward)
Ashwin Williams.	Llanelly. (Darenfelen Ward)
J. Davies.	Llangattock.
W. S. Powell.	Cwmdu.
W. L. Powell.	Llangenny.
A. J. Caine.	Llangynidr.
C. S. Farr.	Llangynidr.

Councillors subsequent to May, 1952.Parish.

J. Mills Price, J.P. (Chairman).	Cwmdu.
J. Davies. (Vice-Chairman).	Llangattock.
Col. P. Fisher, J.P.	Llangenny.
Alderman O.H. Williams, J.P.	Cwmdu.
L. J. Lewis, J.P.	Llangattock.
R. G. Jones.	Crickhowell.
R. G. Davies.	Crickhowell.
W. W. Harris.	Llanbedr.
A. Lewis.	Llanelly. (Gilwern Ward)
W. H. Paske.	Llanelly. (Gilwern Ward)
W. A. Llewellyn.	Llanelly. (Clydach Ward)
Ashwin Williams.	Llanelly. (Darenfelen Ward)
W. L. Powell.	Llangenny.
A. J. Caine.	Llangynidr.
C. S. Farr.	Llangynidr.
W. Nicholls.	Partrishow.

Officials of the Crickhowell Rural District Council.

Medical Officer of Health.	J. Tate, M.B., B.Ch., M.R.C.P., D.P.H.
Clerk of the Council.	E. A. Beech, A.R.V.A.
Surveyor & Sanitary	E. R. Morgan, Cert. R. San. I., M.S.I.A.
Inspector.	retired 31st March, 1952.
	Succeeded by R.A. Jackson, M.S.I.A., R.S.I.
	Cert (Meat & Foods).
Assistant Clerk.	P.J.V. Allen.
Chief Rating Officer.	V.M.T. Leslie.
Rate Collector.	A. M. Brace.
Housing Inspector and	
Camp Manager.	M. A. Thomas.

To the Chairman and Members of
the Crickhowell Rural District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the Sanitary circumstances of the district, the health of the people and the work of the Public Health Department, during the year 1952.

I wish to tender my thanks to the Members of the Council for their helpful consideration and co-operation in all matters affecting Public Health. Also, the Officers of the Council for their help in all matters appertaining to the duties of the Health Department.

I am,

Mr. Chairman and Members,

Your obedient Servant,

J. TATE.

M.B., B.Ch., M.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

<u>Population:-</u>	(Registrar General's Estimate)	7792.
<u>Number of Parishes:-</u>		8.
<u>Acreage:-</u>	According to 1951 census.	46,140 acres.
<u>Rateable Value as at 1st April, 1952:-</u>		£26,751
<u>Product of a Penny Rate 1952/53:-</u>		£103.1.8d.
<u>Rate in the Pound:-</u>	1951/52	£1.3.10d.
	1952/53	£1.5.11d.
<u>Water Rate:-</u>	3/- in the £ with a minimum of £1.1.0 per annum.	
<u>Number of Private Dwellings (including farms):-</u>		2,183.
<u>Number of Council Houses:-</u>		200.

Crickhowell is a large District in South Breconshire, mainly mountainous in character, with an acreage of 46,140 acres.

The District is divided into eight Parishes, Crickhowell, Llangattock, Cwmdy, Llangenny, Llangynidr, Llanbedr and Partrishow, which are mainly agricultural, and Llanelly, which is mainly industrial. In the agricultural area the workers are employed mainly in farm work, forestry and quarrying. In the industrial area, the workers are employed mainly in adjacent coalmines in North Monmouthshire and in various new factories established since the late War in Brynmawr and North Monmouthshire. The Elvicta Handtools Company have established a new modern factory in Crickhowell.

The housing problem remains a most urgent matter, as indeed it is an urgent national problem. A large percentage of the existing houses particularly in the Llanelly Hill area, are occupied by more than one family and there is a large number of old sub-standard houses, which should be considered for demolition actions when conditions permit.

The Council is pressing on building new houses, the chief difficulties being shortage of skilled labour, materials and suitable sites.

Tenants for new houses are selected by means of a Points Scheme adopted by the Council so as to allocate houses to families in the greatest need, conditions of existing accommodation overcrowding and health circumstances, all rating for "points award".

Two ex-Army hutted Camps at Danyparc and Aberbaiden, are still occupied by a number of families, mostly from outside the Council's area. These Camps were built about eleven years ago for the purposes of winning the War and were never intended to last. They are now in a very bad state of repair and far from weatherproof. They constitute a serious problem both from housing and Public Health points of view. Certain repairs have been authorised by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government to try and make the huts weatherproof. Numbers of families from other areas have been struck off their Council's housing lists when they occupied these Camps, and are not admitted to the Crickhowell Rural District Council housing list.

Danyparc Camp is gradually being reduced in size as huts which become vacated are being rendered uninhabitable to prevent further squatting.

Number of applicants for Council Houses on 1st January, 1952.	244.
Number of families rehoused during 1952.	20.
Number of applicants remaining on the Council's list 31st December, 1952.	192.
Total number of post-war Council Houses 1st January, 1953.	200.
Number of Council Houses completed during year 1952.	17.
Number of Council Houses under construction or projected on 31st December, 1952.	20.
Number of Private Houses completed during year 1952.	15.

School Medical Service, Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics, and the provision of school meals are carried out by the County Council.

The health of the District during the year has, on the whole, been good. There has been an absence of any serious outbreaks of epidemic diseases. The majority of the deaths during the year were in the higher age groups. The incidence of Pulmonary Tuberculosis has been low, cases occurring have been adequately and quickly dealt with by the Chest Physicians at their Clinics at Brecon and Pontllanfraith.

There has been no outbreaks of food poisoning during the year. The Council have adopted the Clean Food Byelaws under Section 15, Food and Drugs Act, 1938. Inspections have been carried out from time to time of various food handling stores, bake houses, licensed premises and shops selling ice-cream in accordance with the Regulations. Minor defects have been pointed out and corrected. It has not been necessary to take any legal proceedings under the Byelaws.

National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47. No action has been necessary under this Section during 1952.

SECTION A.V I T A L S T A T I S T I C S .

Population:- (Registrar General's Estimate) 7792.

Total Births:- Male 58. Female 63. Total = 121.

Total Deaths:- Male 42. Female 31. Total = 73.

Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population:= 15.53.

Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population:= 9.36.

Still Births:- Male 4. Female 1. Total = 5.

Transferable Deaths:- Inward 15. Outward 2.

Infantile Mortality Rate:- (4 deaths) Rate = 33.05.

EXTRACT FROM VITAL STATISTICS.DEATHS.Causes.

M. F.

All Causes.	42.	31.
1. Tuberculosis (Respiratory).	1.	1.
2. Tuberculosis (Other Form).	0.	0.
3. Syphilitic Disease.	0.	0.
4. Diphtheria.	0.	0.
5. Whooping Cough.	0.	0.
6. Meningococcal Infections.	0.	0.
7. Acute Poliomyelitis.	0.	0.
8. Measles.	0.	0.
9. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases.	0.	0.
10. Malignant Neoplasm, stomach.	2.	1.
11. Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bronchus.	1.	0.
12. Malignant Neoplasm, breast.	0.	2.
13. Malignant Neoplasm, uterus.	0.	0.
14. Other malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms.	6.	3.
15. Leukaemia, alcukaemia.	0.	0.
16. Diabetes.	0.	0.
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system.	2.	5.
18. Coronary disease, angina.	4.	0.
19. Hypertension with heart disease.	0.	0.
20. Other heart disease.	13.	9.
21. Other circulatory disease.	1.	2.
22. Influenza.	0.	0.
23. Pneumonia.	2.	0.
24. Bronchitis.	2.	1.
25. Other diseases of respiratory system.	0.	0.
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.	0.	0.
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea.	1.	0.
28. Nephritis and nephrosis.	0.	1.
29. Hyperplasia of prostate.	1.	0.
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.	0.	0.
31. Congenital malformations.	0.	0.
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases.	4.	3.
33. Motor Vehicle accidents.	0.	0.
34. All other accidents.	0.	1.
35. Suicide.	2.	2.
36. Homicide and operations of war.	0.	0.

SECTION B.

Laboratory Facilities	=	Public Health Laboratory, County Hall, Newport, Mon.
Ambulance Facilities	=	Breconshire County Council Ambulance, stationed at Crickhowell.
Nursing in the Home	=	Breconshire County Council.
Clinics and Centres	=	Welsh Regional Hospital Board and North Monmouthshire Management Committee, War Memorial Hospital, Crickhowell.

SECTION C.INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

NOTIFICATIONS. The following cases, other than Tuberculosis, were notified during the year:-

<u>Diseases.</u>	<u>No. of Cases.</u>
Scarlet Fever.	9
Diphtheria.	1
Measles.	38
Whooping Cough.	62
Pneumonia.	1
Paratyphoid.	3

TUBERCULOSIS. A schedule of new cases and removals from the Register is given below.

New Cases.				Removals from Register.			
Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
2	3	2	1	2	2	0	0

Number of cases remaining on Register on 31st December, 1952.

Respiratory.			Non-Respiratory.		
M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
15	17	32.	4	3	7.

SCHOOLS. Three schools were closed during the year 1952, in consequence of infectious diseases.

SECTION D.SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.W A T E R.

All parts of the area, apart from isolated premises, have a piped water supply. and these various systems were fully described in the 1951 Annual Report.

Some of the supplies are far from satisfactory either in quality or quantity, and, in certain cases, are insufficient to meet the growing needs of a healthy community desiring modern amenities.

Shortage is mainly experienced in the following areas:-

BWLCH. (Cwmdu Parish).

The supply to this village is affected by the dry periods of every year, and rationing is resorted to by turning off the supply except for short periods in the morning and evening.

The Brecon Rural District Council are proceeding with a major water supply system in their area, and it is hoped that a supply for Bwlch can be obtained from this authority at the boundary of the two districts.

CLYDACH NORTH. (Llanelly Parish).

This supply is only sufficient to meet all demands during the wet periods of the year. The modernising of some houses, with the consequent installation of water fittings, and the building of a small Council House Estate has increased the demand beyond the yield during many periods of the year.

It is hoped that a solution to the water supply of this area will be found in a scheme to harness the springs at Ffynnon Gisfaen.

WENALLT AND DRAEN AREA, GILWERN. (Llanelly Parish).

The small local sources, piped to the majority of the houses, are not sufficient in dry periods.

A scheme is under consideration to supply this area from the Abertillery and District Water Board Main.

LLANBEDR.

The supply to this village is to be augmented, within the next few months, with a supply from the Table Mountain Springs.

LLANGENNY.

The district around Llangenny Village and the hamlet of Glangrwyney will shortly be supplied by a new scheme from the Cwm Cegr Springs. This source yields an excellent supply throughout the year, and the future may see extensions taken from the Llangenny system to other nearby Parishes, should the need arise.

GILWERN. (Llanelly Parish).

The supply system, to this growing centre, has not "settled-down" following extensive excavations with the installation of a sewerage scheme. Numerous breaks and trench subsidances have caused many periods of shortage, but, at the same time, there is evidence of insufficient pressure at many points at normal periods, and a close watch will have to be maintained on the system as a whole.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION REPORT.Public Piped Supplies.

Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.
8	3

Plumbo-Solvent Action.

There is no evidence of any of the public supplies in the area having a plumbo-solvent action,

D R A I N A G E A N D S E W E R A G E .

The 1951 Annual Report contained a full description of all the sewerage schemes and disposal methods in the area, and the conditions remain unchanged apart from the following:-

GILWERN. (Llanelly Parish).

Work has proceeded steadily on the installation of a sewerage system for this area, and the end of 1952 sees approximately 70 per cent completed.

CRICKHOWELL.

Suspension of grant under The Distribution of Industry Act, 1945, previously available, for a proposed scheme to instal a modern sewerage disposal works has meant the postponement of this project for the present.

LLANGATTOCK.

The suspension of grants under The Distribution of Industry Act, 1945, has resulted in the redesigning of this sewerage scheme for Llangattock and Crickhowell, to serve Llangattock only, and application is being made for a grant in respect of this revised scheme under the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Acts, 1944 & 1951.

SEWAGE EFFLUENT ANALYSIS.

A sample of the effluent from the Gilwern Sewage Works has given the following result:-

Biological oxygen demand in 5 days.	1.07.
Suspended matter.	1.80.

"The analysis shows that the effluent has been efficiently treated".

PUBLIC CLEANSING - REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

A Council scavenging service operates in all the built-up areas of the district with, in the majority of cases, a twice-weekly collection.

Disposal by tipping takes place at Crickhowell and Gilwern, but the latter site has, for sometime, been considered unsuitable and efforts are being made to obtain land in that area for a new controlled tip.

RODENT CONTROL.

PEST ACT, 1950. A full time Rodent Operator is employed by the Council.

Infestation Treatments carried out during the year:-

Private Dwellings.....	235	
Business Premises.....	18	
Schools.....	2	
Sewerage Systems.....		Regular Treatment
Refuse Tips.....		" "
Brooks in Villages.....		" "

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 & 1948.

Details of the routine inspection at the thirteen factories in the area are contained on separate Ministry forms.

FOOD AND DRUGS.

FOOD CONDEMNED AND VOLUNTARILY SURRENDERED. The following goods were, on inspection, found to be unfit and were voluntarily surrendered:-

6	tins	Crushed Pineapples.
4	tins	Beans in Tomato Sauce.
14	tins	Soup.
2	tins	Baby Food.
37	tins	Raspberries.
12	tins	Blackcurrants.
77	tins	Meat.
24	tins	Oranges.
17	tins	Peas.
78	tins	Tomatoes.
7	tins	Pilchards.
4	tins	Damsons.
7	tins	Cherries.
1	tin	Prunes.
4	tins	Pears.
15	tins	Meat Paste.
4	tins	Strawberries.
4	tins	Apricots.
2	tins	Herring Roes.
1	tin	Sardines.
1	tin	Marmalade.
2	tins	Shrimps.
1	tin	Gurvas in Syrup.
1	tin	Grapes.
24	tins	Peaches.
16	tins	Milk.
8	tins	Apples.
30	tins	Plums.
2	tin	Carrots.
4	tins	Stewed Steak.
1	tin	Bananas.
1	tin	Spaghetti.
21	lbs	Butter.
10	lbs	Mincemeat.
8	lbs	"Cremo" Oats.
51	lbs	Oatmeal.
9	lbs	Jam.
1	lb	Lemon Curd.
3	lbs	Dates.
22	lbs	Christmas Pudding.
41	lbs	Flour.
1	lb	Bacon.
1	lb	Rice.

2 lbs Mixed Peel.
 2 jars Dog Food.
 1 bottle Pickles.
 9 Meat Pies.
 7 jars Paste.
 2 bottles Pineapples.
 1 pkt Rennies Tablets.
 12 ozs Grapenuts.
 1 pkt Quaker Oats.
 1 pkt Shredded Wheat.
 19 pkts Cake Mixture.
 1 pkt Jelly.
 2 pkts Pea Flour.
 2 pkts Rice Creamola.
 1 pkt Rice Custard Powder.
 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs Cheese.
 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs Coconut.
 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs Lard.
 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs Ham.
 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs Ground Almonds.
 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs Margarine.

SURVEYS AND INSPECTIONS.

The following is a summary of the inspections carried out during 1952:-

Detailed house inspections.....	287
Public Health Acts.....	132
Factories.....	15
Complaints investigated.....	73
Scavenging investigations.....	24
Drainage investigations.....	109
Water Supply investigations.....	146

NOTICES SERVED.

Informal.		Statutory.	
Served.	Complied with.	Served.	Complied with.
47	43	6	5

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